

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 02446 111931Z

15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-02 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 TAR-01 /086 W

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R 111341Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5128

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 2446

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD PFOR EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOR AND UPEB MEMBERSHIP

1. AN EDITORIAL ESPOUSING ECUADOREAN PARTICIPATION IN UPEB APPEARED IN QUITO DAILY EL TIEMPO APRIL 8. POINTING TO PROFITS TO BE MADE IN THE FIELD OF MARKETING, IT SAID A FORMULA SHOULD BE FOUND WHICH WOULD RECONCILE ECUADOREAN INTERESTS AND ASPIRATIONS WITH THOSE OF OTHER BANANA PRODUCING COUNTRIES. AT A TIME WHEN ALL NATIONS EVERYWHERE ARE LOOKING FOR AND RECEIVING A JUST PRICE FOR PRODUCTS, ECUADOREANS SHOULD NOT FEEL THEIR NATIONAL INTERESTS ARE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE EXISTING IN OTHER BANANA PRODUCING REGIONS. RECEIVING A JUST PRICE MAKES UP, AT LEAST IN PART, FOR THE MONOPOLY OF THE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS. IF THE UNION OF BANANA EXPORTING COUNTRIES HAS THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE OF REACHING A MORE REMUNERATIVE PRICE AND NEUTRALIZING THE INTERNATIONAL FRUIT MONOPOLY, THESE REASONS IMPEL ECUADOR TO LOOK SYMPATHETICALLY AT UPEB.

2. COMPARING UPEB AND OPEC, THE EDITORIAL STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH BANANAS AND PETROLEUM ARE NOT THE SAME THING, A SIMILAR

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DOMINATION BY MULTINATIONALS CONFRONTED THE OIL PRODUCERS

UNTIL THEY BANDED TOGETHER TO CONTROL CONDITIONS OF SALE.
UPEB OFFERS THE SAME POSSIBILITY FOR CHANGE. THE FEAR WAS
STATED THAT THE NEW ORGANIZATION MIGHT BE FORMED AND TAKE ACTION
WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE LARGEST EXPORTER OF BANANAS
AND URGED ECUADOR'S JOINING UPEB "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BEFORE
THE ORGANIZATION IS UNDER WAY AND DEVELOPS WITHOUT US."
THIS WOULD MEAN ECUADOR WOULD LOSE ANY OPPORTUNITY OF CONTROLLING
AND DICTATING ITS STEPS AND OBJECTIVES "ADVANTAGEOUS FOR OUR
OWN INTERESTS".

3. COMMENT: EDITORIAL IS A USEFUL REMINDER THAT FOR ECUADOREAN
LAYMEN, UPEB HAS A CERTAIN ATTRACTION. GOE'S ALOOFNESS FROM
UPEB REFLECTS PRINCIPALLY THE POSITION OF BANANA PRODUCERS AND
EXPORTERS, WHOSE FIRST WORRY IS MAINTAINING THEIR SHARE OF THE
GLOBAL MARKET.
HEMENWAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, EXPORTERS, BANANAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975QUITO02446
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750128-0021
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750458/aaaacbmy.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 SEP 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECUADOR AND UPEB MEMBERSHIP
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EPAP, EC, UPEB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006